WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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- A computer-based method, comprising the steps of:
- 2 \ downloading data from a remote site;
- requesting a workspace data manager to enable manipulation of the data
- 4 and thereby create manipulated data; and
- synchronizing the manipulated data with the data stored at the remote site.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of requesting the
- 2 workspace data manager to provide an interface for enabling manipulation of the
- 3 data.



- 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of using the workspace data manager interface to request synchronization.
- The method of claim 2, wherein the workspace data manager provides an
- 2 interface by creating an instance.
- 1 5. The method of claim 2, wherein the workspace data manager provides an
- 2 interface by providing access to its only interface.

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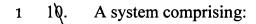
- 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of translating the
- 2 workspace data from the format used by the remote site and the format used by the
- 3 workspace data manager.

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- 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of deleting the
- 2 workspace data manager interface after manipulation of data is no longer needed.

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- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the data stored at the remote site has not
- 2 changed and therefore includes the downloaded data.
- 1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the data stored at the remote site has been
- 2 modified, and therefore is different than the downloaded data.



- a communications module for downloading workspace data from a remote
- 3 site;

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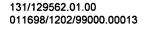
- an application program interface coupled to the communications module for
- 5 communicating with a workspace data manager to enable manipulation of the
- 6 downloaded workspace data and thereby create manipulated data; and
- a general synchronization module coupled to the communications module
- 8 for synchronizing the manipulated data with the workspace data stored at the
- 9 remote site.
- 1 11. The system of claim 10^{1} further comprising an instantiator for requesting
- 2 the workspace data manager to provide an data manipulation interface for enabling
- 3 manipulation of the downloaded workspace data.
- 1 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the data manipulation interface enables a
- 2 request to synchronize the data.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the workspace data manager creates another instance of the interface to enable manipulation of the data.



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- 14. The system of claim 11, wherein the workspace data manager provides access to its only interface to enable manipulation of the data.
- 1 15. The system of claim 10, further comprising a data reader for translating the
- 2 downloaded workspace data from the format used by the remote site to the format
- 3 used by the workspace data manager.
 - The system of claim 11, further comprising a de-instantiator for deleting the data manipulation interface after manipulation of data is no longer required.
 - 17. The system of claim 10, wherein the data stored at the remote site has not changed and therefore includes the downloaded data.
 - 18. The system of claim 10, wherein the data stored at the remote site has been modified, and therefore is different than the downloaded data.
- 1 19. The system of claim 18, further comprising a content-based synchronization
- 2 module for synchronizing the data stored at the remote site with the manipulated
- 3 data.







- 20. A system comprising:
- means for downloading data from a remote site;
- means for requesting a workspace data manager to enable manipulation of
- 4 the data and thereby create manipulated data; and
- 5 means for synchronizing the manipulated data with the data stored at the
- 6 remote site.
- 1 21. A computer readable storage medium storing program code for causing a
- 2 computer to perform the steps of:
- downloading data from a remote site;
- 4 requesting a workspace data manager to enable manipulation of the data
- 5 and thereby create manipulated data; and
- synchronizing the manipulated data with the data stored at the remote site.